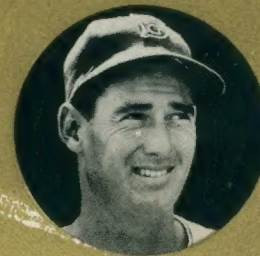
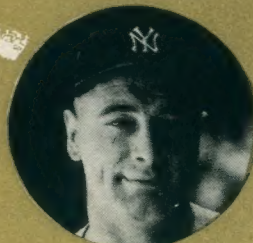
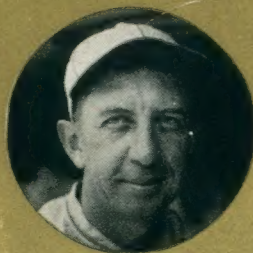
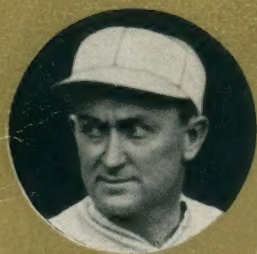


# AMERICAN LEAGUE



## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

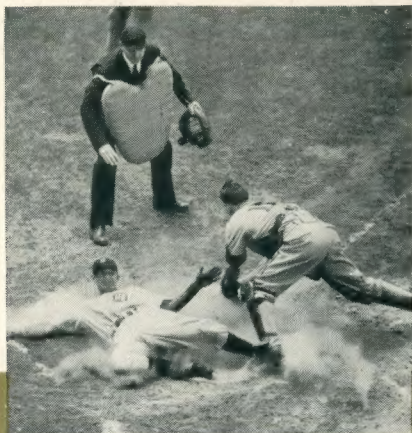




Ira Goldman



# Dedicated



to the fans of baseball  
whose faith in the game made possible the creation  
of the American League, and whose  
loyalty through the years has been its strength.  
In sincere appreciation...

OLD TIMERS  
GAME

YANKEE STADIUM

SEPT. 8, 1951

Clark Griffith  
WASHINGTON NATIONALS

Connie Mack  
PHILADELPHIA ATHLETICS

Thomas A. Dewey  
BOSTON RED SOX

Charles Comiskey  
CHICAGO WHITE SOX

W. O. Briggs  
DETROIT TIGERS

Daniel D. Topp  
NEW YORK YANKEES

Eli Ryan  
CLEVELAND INDIANS

Will Harridge  
PRESIDENT

John O. Sewell  
ST. LOUIS BROWNS



OPENING DAY, 1901—AT OLD  
BENNETT PARK, DETROIT...



(Courtesy Detroit News)

## Birth of a League...



...THE 1950 WORLD SERIES  
YANKEE STADIUM

It was cold and raw in Chicago that morning of November 21, 1900...The wind, knifing in from the lake, beat steadily against the ornate coping and windows of the Grand Pacific Hotel. In a third floor room of that hostelry sat a small group of men who paid scant heed to the whine of the wintry gale...In clear, flowing longhand the secretary of the group wrote: "We the undersigned, desiring to reorganize The American League of Professional Base Ball Clubs...and to protect and promote the mutual interest of professional baseball players...hereby covenant and agree each with the other... that the name of this organization shall be the 'American League of Professional Baseball Clubs'...that B. B. Johnson be elected President, Secretary and Treasurer."



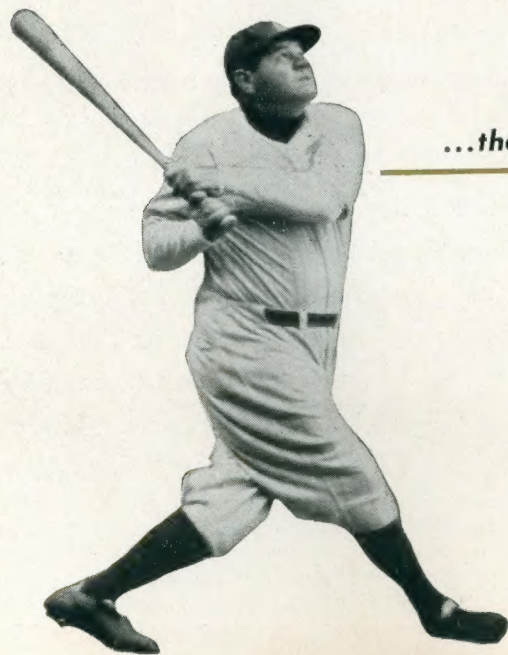
# "The Babe"...

To the millions of fans who saw him play—and countless legions who never did but felt they always had—he will be forever baseball's "Big Fellow," the immortal Babe Ruth.

The greatest influence upon the sport of any player in the game's lustrous history, the Babe's spectacular, adventurous career altered the entire structure of baseball...With his mighty bat, he was the game's greatest all-time drawing card, its fabulously salaried star, the figure who always was news, whether he was breaking up a pennant race or world series, or nursing a hot-dog incurred stomach-ache.

The spindly legs, the barrel-chest, the mincy, little steps as he strode to the plate...The caps he wore, the grace and power of his swing, the kids he always had a smile for, all these are Ruth remembrances...A left-handed catcher who started his baseball odyssey with a right-handed mitt, then star pitcher and slugger for his training school team in Baltimore, he went up to the Boston Red Sox and pitching greatness before moving on to the New York Yankees and baseball immortality.

He left indelible marks in the record book...Home runs, bases on balls, runs batted in, world series pitching, the list is long and fascinating...But more than that, he forever will be remembered as the boy who came off the streets to rise to the pinnacle of success in his field...The Babe's story was and always will be one of the greatest American success stories.



*...there it goes!*

*"...yeah, Babe!"*



*"...tall, skinny and 17—  
from a left handed catcher to  
star pitcher and hitter of  
his training school  
team at Baltimore"...*





# "Ty"...

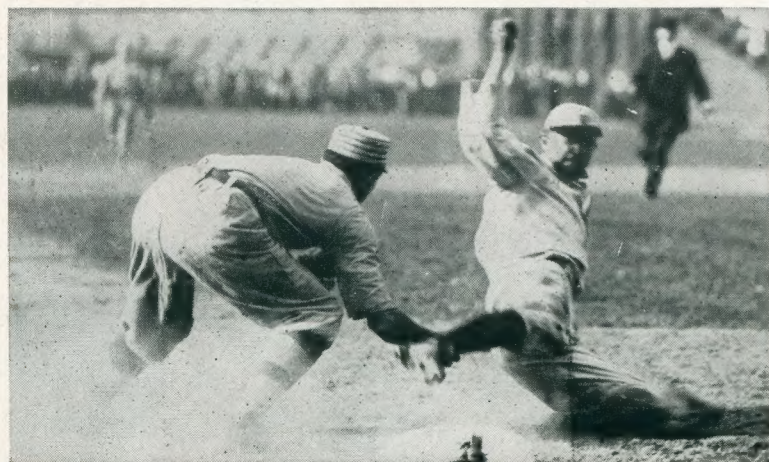
The American League's fiery genius and great individualist...that was Tyrus Raymond Cobb of the Detroit Tigers.

Great hitter and base stealer, fleet fielder and opportunist, he was baseball's greatest student, possessed of a keen and nimble mind that was the prime factor in his domination of the game for more than a score of years.

The old argument as to who was greater, Babe Ruth or Ty Cobb, never will end...Comparison pays high tribute to each, but where The Babe was the man with the bludgeon, Ty wielded the rapier, swiftly and cleverly...Daring, imaginative and determined, he upset batteries and infields and even, at times, the fans themselves...Never was there anything orthodox or prosaic about his play, which ended with his name dotting the record books, with his all-time major league batting average of .367 standing unchallenged, with his name enshrined as league batting champion no fewer than 12 years out of 13 campaigns.

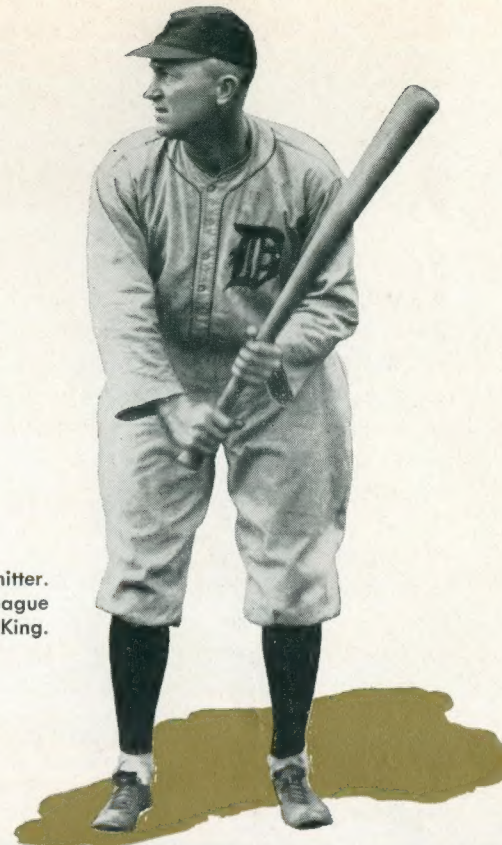
The greatest and fiercest competitor that the American League, and possibly all baseball, ever knew, Ty was at his best with the pressure heavily on him...Brilliant always, he had the ability to rise with the odds against him...He hated to lose, he dreaded defeat...Those phobias made him what he was, the spark and flame of the diamond.

A star which always will shine steadily above the American League horizon—That was "The Georgia Peach," Ty Cobb.



Here he comes! Ty roaring into third in 1912 on the famous play that spiked Frank (Home-Run) Baker's forearm and added coals to the red-hot feud between the Tigers and Athletics of those years.

...A .367 lifetime hitter.  
Twelve times League  
Batting King.

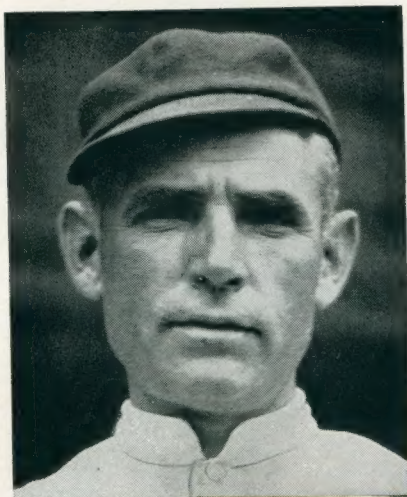


Young Ty on the day he joined the Detroit club in August, 1905, talking things over with Manager Bill Armour. At left, third baseman Bill Coughlin. Shortly afterward on Aug. 30, in his first game for the Tigers, Ty doubled off New York's great spitballer, Jack Chesbro, for two runs in his first trip to the plate.





**CHARLES A. COMISKEY**  
"the old Roman"...



A star young right-  
hander-manager  
named Griffith...

## The First American League Champions

### ...the White Sox of 1901

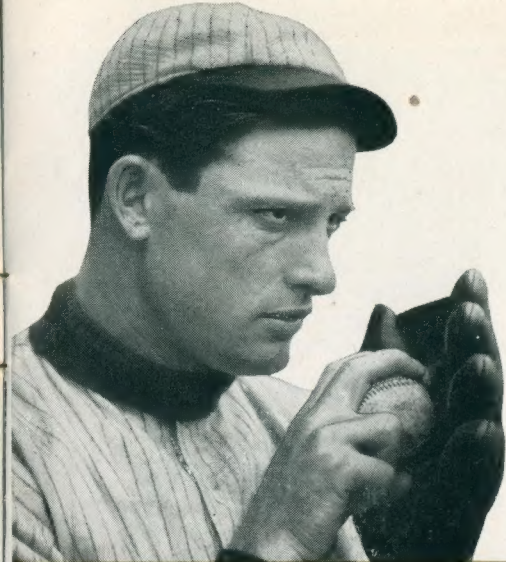
A legendary name in American League history is that of Charles A. Comiskey, "The Old Roman"...A handsome giant whose career encompassed greatness in every field of baseball, his courage and vision made him a founder of the league, and it was his White Sox who won the first pennant of the new major circuit.

Star pitcher-manager of that team was Clark Griffith, a 24-game winner whose rise in the game parallels that of the owner under whom he played that 1901 campaign.

The passing years saw changing scenes and rosters...New Comiskey Park opened in 1910...New stars appeared...Collins, Mostil, Lyons, Appling...But spanning the seasons has been the Comiskey name, with Lou following his father and, in this anniversary year, a third generation taking the helm in the person of young "Chuck"...His is a heritage rich in American League tradition.







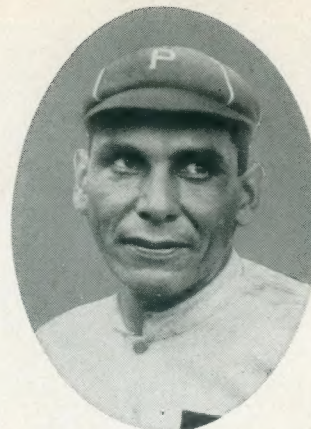
ED WALSH



HUGH DUFFY



TRIS SPEAKER



CHIEF BENDER

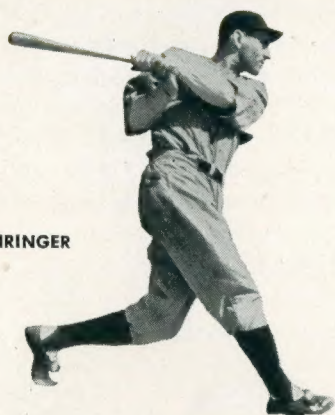
RUBE  
WADDELL



LARRY  
LAJOIE



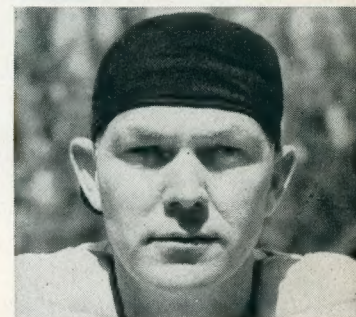
## "Their Stars Shine Brightly"



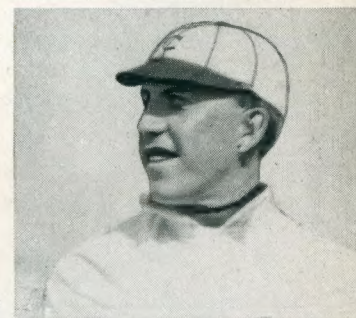
CHARLES GEHRINGER

Great hitters, base-runners, fielders and pitchers...The American League's history glows with the undimmed lustre of their performances...Volumes can't tell the full story of those greats of other years, but sometimes a picture momentarily can bring back to the old fan the thrills of long gone days and the greats who produced them, on the hill, in the field or at the plate.

BILL  
DICKEY



ADDIE  
JOSS



URBAN SHOCKER

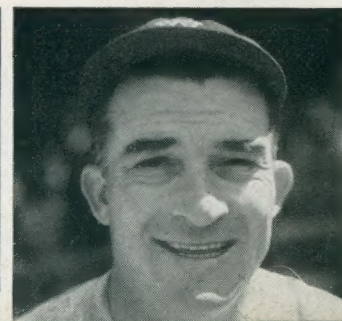
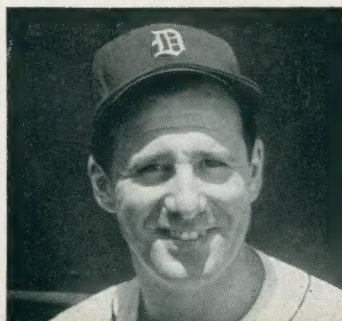
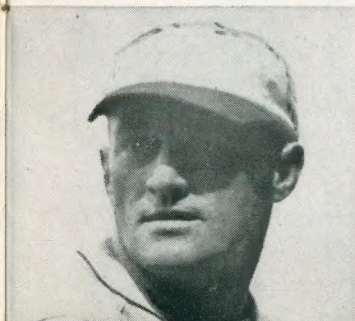
HARRY HEILMANN

HANK GREENBERG

AL SIMMONS

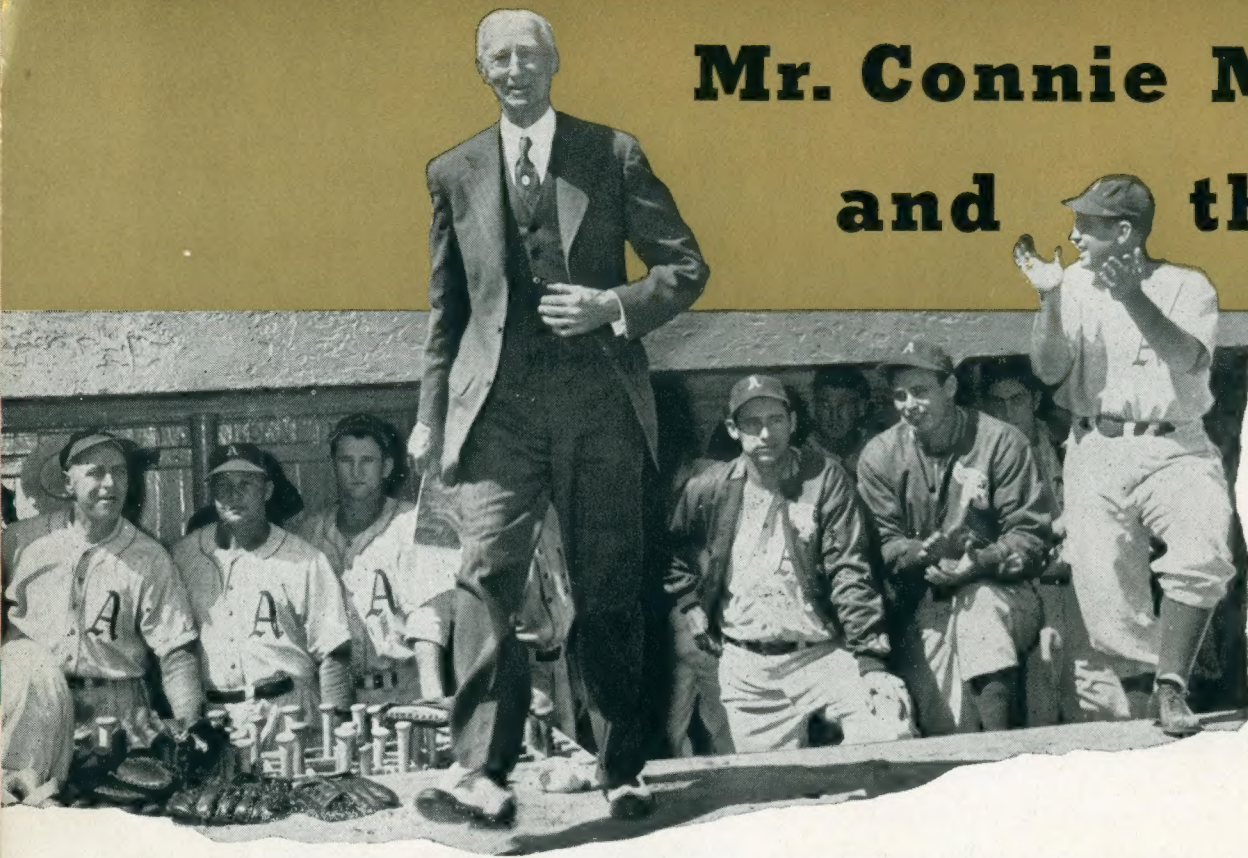
JOE CRONIN

CY YOUNG





# Mr. Connie Mack and the Athletics...



Synonymous with baseball is the name of Connie Mack.

The game first came to know it on that long gone day in 1884 when as a lanky young catcher he joined the Meriden club, and with an unmatched record of loyal service it has extended through the American League's first fifty-years.

At the helm of his beloved A's in that initial sea-

son of 1901, he was 38 years of age...He helped the young circuit come of age, was one of its strong and steadying counselors through its perilous times, his alertness, energy and enthusiasm ever a sinew in the league's growth.

Every thrill and honor of baseball has come his way, and deservedly so...Nine times he led his Athletics to pennants, and five times to world champion-

ships...He produced great teams...From 1910 through 1914 Connie won four pennants, three world series, and fans always will talk about the famous \$100,000 infield of Stuffy McInnis, Eddie Collins, Jack Barry and Frank (Home-Run) Baker...In 1929 came the first of three more pennant winners, with Mickey Cochrane, Lefty Grove, Al Simmons and Jimmy Foxx joining the list of Waddells, Planks, Benders and other Mack greats of the past.

Those teams and individual stars form a dazzling crown for the record of a man whose accomplishments through the years are equalled only by his kindly, always friendly graciousness...whether it be toward the greatest star, a fan seeking the inevitable autograph or the lowliest rookie reporting for his first tryout.

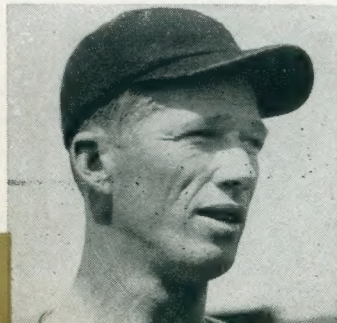
This year of 1951 is, appropriately, a personal Golden Jubilee for Mr. Mack...Relinquishing the managerial reins, he continues as Athletics' president, his career bridging the entire existence of the American League...Great sportsman and developer of talent, his character and integrity have been an inspiration to the game everywhere, and for him there always will be a special place in the hall of fame.

Baseball owes much to Mr. Connie Mack.

MICKEY COCHRANE



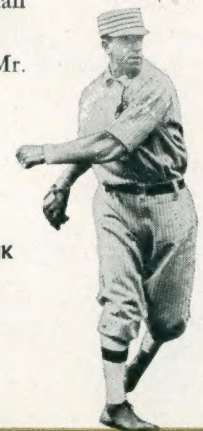
LEFTY GROVE



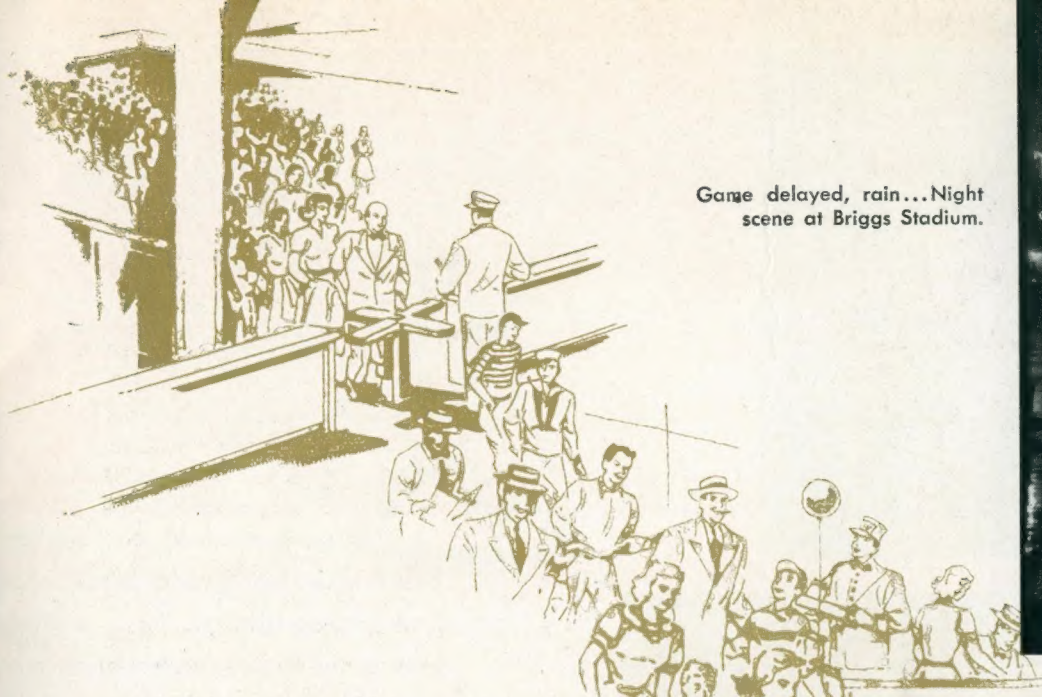
JIMMY FOXX



EDDIE PLANK







Game delayed, rain...Night scene at Briggs Stadium.



Aggressive in its early years, progressive through them all, the American League's steady growth is reflected in its attendance records...In that first season of 1901, the embryonic circuit drew some 1,685,000 fans, a showing termed "amazing" by scribes of that day and one which erased all doubt that the new organization had earned major status on the field and at the box office.

Catching the favor of fans that first season under the leadership of dynamic President Ban Johnson, the league's drawing power continued in stride through the years...New stadiums made their appearances... The A's moved into Shibe Park and a year later, in 1910, the White Sox opened what early tomes described as the "showplace of the baseball world," Comiskey Park...Taking the places of old wooden stands and rough fields came Sportsmans Park, rich in baseball lore, Griffith Stadium, Fenway Park, Navin field, now magnificent Briggs Stadium...Then, in 1923, "the house that Ruth built" rose from the Bronx to become, literally, the home of many champions...And at Cleveland, the Municipal stadium roared into the attendance scene, with vast assemblages once undreamed of

both under the afternoon sun and evening's lights.

For night baseball made its American League bow in 1939...Chicago, Cleveland and Philadelphia played a total of 21 after-dark games at home, drawing the "staggering" figure of 466,296 customers...That the game under the arcs has been a major factor in baseball's ever-widening appeal is shown by the paid night attendance of 11,957,073 fans for the seasons 1948, 1949 and 1950.

The last decade saw the league register a great upswing on its attendance chart...A new record of five and one-half million in 1940 went by the boards in 1945...The following season the total circuit attendance jumped more than four million to 9,621,182, and the 1948 campaign, highlighted by the first pennant tie and playoff in league history, saw the total soar to a major-league smashing mark of 11,150,099 fans clicking the turnstiles...For the past three seasons the circuit has had an average paid total of 10,341,036 customers.

New parks and improved fields played a part in that phenomenal turnstile climb, but more than that, the league has given succeeding generations of loyal-

ists great stars, great teams and great races...Setting the tempo of spectacular, exciting play in the early years were the Cobbs, Chesbros and Lajoies...The Ruths, Ferrells and Groves passed the baton to the Fellers, Williams, Kells and DiMaggios of the present.

The stars of each era held the interest of old fans, earned that of the new...The American League stands pledged to maintain that same high calibre of play as it moves into the second half of the century.







Back row, left to right: Speaker, Hooper, Cady, Mays, Gregg, Collins, Haley, Cooper, Leonard, Lewis. Middle row: Gardner, Janvrin, Foster, Corrigan, Hoblitzel, Gainer, Barry. Front: Thomas, McNally, Scott, Henriksen, Wagner.

## BOSTON

Red Sox

1915



Guaranteed as a sure-fire ball fanatics everywhere is that concerning American League history...It's a never-ending interesting and controversial as it is unsentimental. The pictures of eight standouts themselves consider good enough to represent the work on their choices, you fans!



The Chicago White Sox World's Champions

Upper row: Secretary Grabiner; President Charles A. Comiskey; Treasurer J. L. Comiskey. Lower row, left to right: Jordan, McMullen, Williams, Jenkins, Jackson, Scott, Russell, Faber, Gandil, Lynn, Danforth, Felsch, Schalk, Mgr. Rowland, Gleason, E. Collins, Liebold, Cicotte, Risberg, Weaver, Benz, Byrne, Wolfgang, J. Collins, Murphy.

## CHICAGO

White Sox

1917

GOLD  
ANNIVERSARY  
1901



subject for argument among base-  
 rning "the greatest team" of Amer-  
 ling "hot stove league" question as  
 nanswerable...So herewith are pre-  
 eams, which the club officials them-  
 resent them on these pages...Go to



## CLEVELAND

Indians

1948

Back row, left to right: Judnick, Clark, Peck, Doby, Edwards, Mitchell, Kennedy, Hegan, Boone, Tipton, Tucker. Middle row: Traveling Secretary Goldstein, Zoldak, Klieman, Gromek, Christopher, Bearden, Lemon, Paige, Feller, Muncrief, Trainer Weisman. Front row: Robinson, Keltner, Rosen, Harder, Mgr. Boudreau, President Veeck, Ruel, McKechnie, Gordon, Berardino. Batboy Sheridan. Missing from picture—Don Black.



## DETROIT

Tigers

1908

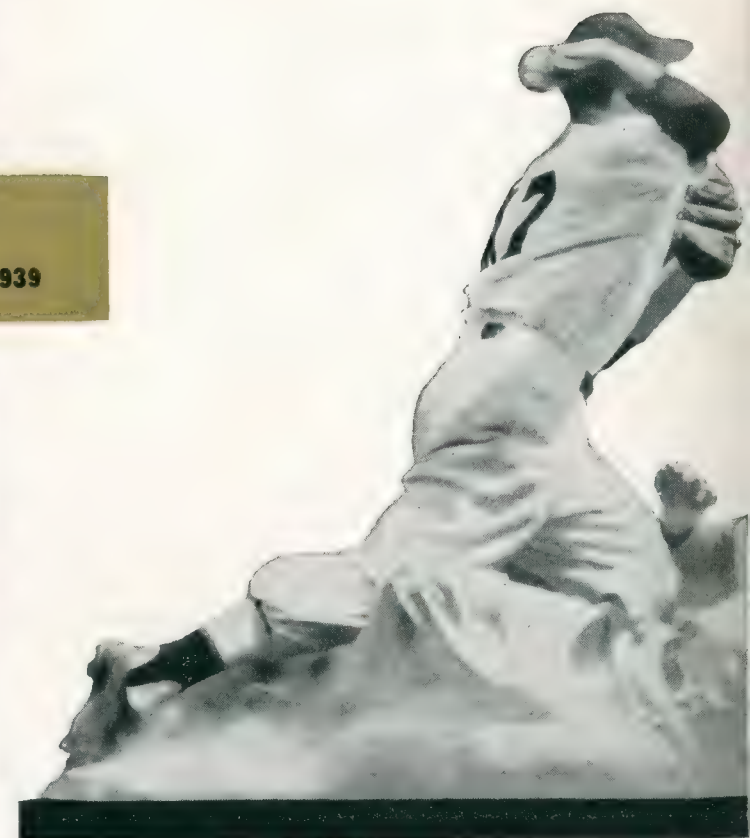
Top row: Willett, Killian, Schmidt, Mullin, Cobb, Jennings, Crawford, Donovan, Downs, Thomas. Bottom row: Summers, Winters, Killifer, Bush, McIntyre, Coughlin, O'Leary, Jones, Schaffer, Rossman.





Back row, left to right: Dickey, Ruffing, DiMaggio, Hildebrand, Sundra, Schreiber, Murphy, Gomez, Donald, Henrich, Jorgens. Middle row: Gordon, Hadley, Pearson, Russo, Gehrig, Selkirk, Knickerbocker, Dr. Painter. Front row: Rosar, Keller, Chandler, Powell, Coach Fletcher, Mgr. McCarthy, Coach Combs, Coach Schulte, Rolfe, Dahlgren, Crosetti. Batboy Sullivan.

**NEW YORK**  
**Yankees** 1939



Back row, left to right: Davis, Baker, Coombs, Thomas, Bender, Houser, Derrick, Morgan, Donahue. Middle row: Oldring, Lord, Murphy, Manager Connie Mack, Plank, Lapp, Strunk. Front row: Hartsel, McInnis, Atkins, Krause, Van Zelst (mascot), Dygert, Collins, Barry, Livingston.

**PHILADELPHIA**  
**Athletics** 1910





## WASHINGTON

Nats

1924

Back row, left to right: Trainer Martin, Leibold, Peckinpaugh, Ogden, Mogridge, Marberry, Taylor, Zahniser, Speece. Middle row: Schacht, Miller, Shirley, Bluege, Russell, Ruel, Tate, Altrack. Front row: Zachary, Hargrave, Martina, Judge, Johnson, Mgr. Harris, Rice, McNeely, Goslin.



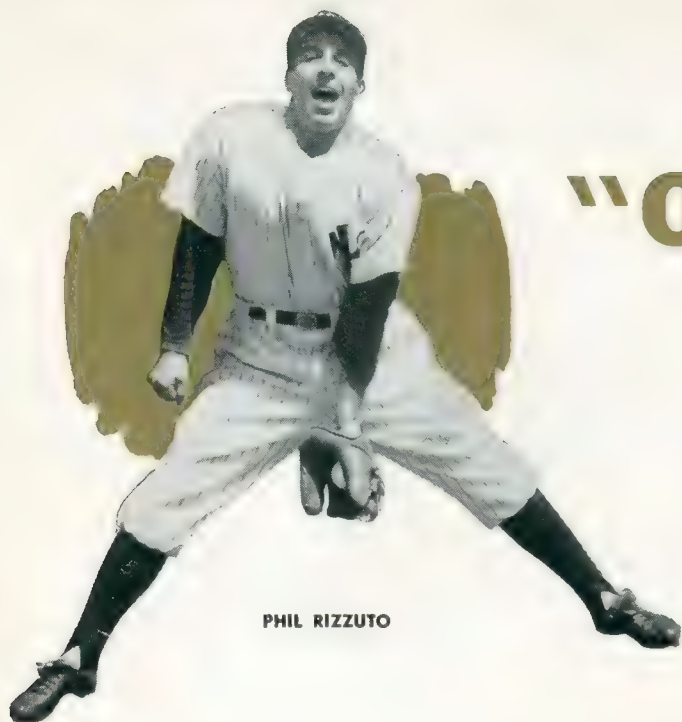
## ST. LOUIS

Browns

1922

Top row, left to right: Severeid, Kraft, Bayne, Davis, Kolp, Sisler, McManus, Jacobson, Shorten, Meine, Tobin, Mgr. Fohl, Leifield. Bottom row: Collins, Van Gilder, Austin, Gerber, Foster, Robertson, Pruett, Ellerbe, Williams, Wright, Durst, Bronkie, Billings, Shocker.





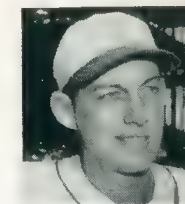
PHIL RIZZUTO

# "On Today's Diamond"

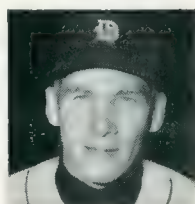
The names of scores of great stars are emblazoned on the pages of American League annals...Succeeding generations of fans have recounted the many thrills contributed by the Sislers and Speakers, the Cronins, Gehringers and Ruffings...Carrying on are players who on today's diamonds are upholding brilliantly the league's tradition of spectacular performance.



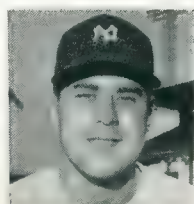
LARRY BERRA



SHERM LOLLAR



HAL NEWHOUSER



VIC RASCHI



GEORGE KELL



WALT DROPO



BILLY GOODMAN



EDDIE YOST



BOB LEMON





LOU BOUDREAU



LARRY DOBY



EDDIE JOOST



CHICO CARRASQUEL



## THE WORLD SERIES

The first of what now is known as the world series was played in 1903, with Boston setting an American League victory pattern that has held through the passing years... Bill Dinneen and Cy Young were brilliant on the mound as the Bostons took that classic from Pittsburgh...Trailing one victory to three, the American League team swept four straight in a smashing comeback to nail the first modern world championship pennant to the junior circuit mast.

The game's blue-ribbon event has produced many great stars, teams and thrills... Fans still reminisce about the Chicago White Sox "hitless wonders" upsetting the powerful Cubs in 1906...about the play of Eddie Collins and the hitting of "Home Run" Baker in 1910 and 1911...about the great performance of Tris Speaker and Joe Wood in the thrilling 1912 spectacle.

Nostalgic memories flood the pages recording the pitching brilliancy of a young left-hander named Babe Ruth in 1916 and 1918, and his hitting in no fewer than seven other series...Indelibly inscribed in memory are Howard Ehmke's surprise start in 1929 and that famous 10-run inning by the Athletics against Chicago's Cubs...New York's remarkable four-straight triumphs in 1936-1939 as Gehrig, Gomez, Dickey & company kept the Yank banner flying...The sparkling play and leadership of Lou Boudreau in 1948...and as the curtain fell last October on the half-century, Yankee veterans such as Vic Raschi and Joe DiMaggio sharing honors with 21-year-old Ed Ford to bring a 30th world championship to the American League.

## ALL STAR GAMES

A spillway of baseball thrills and memories is the major league All-Star series...A comparative "youngster" on the diamond scene—with the first memorable contest taking place in 1933—the mid-summer classic has become a seasonal highlight bright with the performance of stars from every team in the American League.

Babe Ruth's homer which won the first game for the Americans at Comiskey Park ...The pitching of Gomez and Harder in 1935...Gehrig batting in four runs at Washington in 1937...Ted William's terrific homer with two on and two out in the ninth at Detroit in 1941 and his four hits in 1946 at Boston...Lou Boudreau's brilliant fielding in 1942...and the greatest game of the series and one of the greatest played anywhere, anytime...The battle last summer at Comiskey Park which saw the National Leaguers take a thrill-packed 4-3 decision in 14 innings.

Those are but a few of the gems in a sparkling duel which finds the American League holding 12 triumphs as fans look ahead to the 18th presentation, slated for July 10 in Detroit's spacious Briggs stadium as part of the city's birthday festival program.

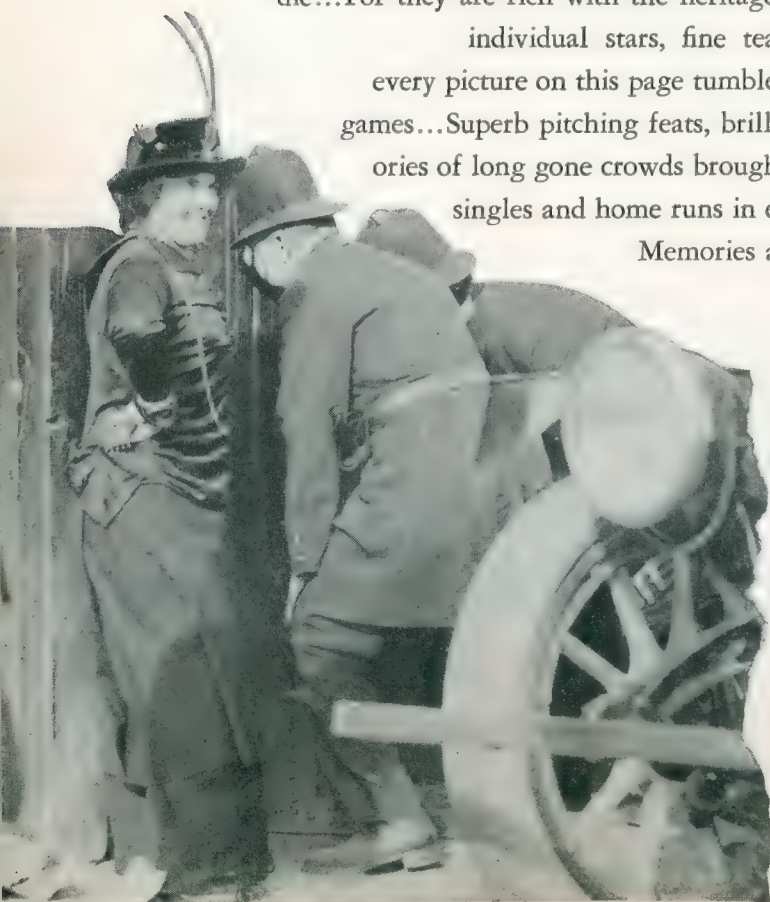




# Auld Lang Syne

The American League's "good old days" never will die...For they are rich with the heritage of exciting deeds, great individual stars, fine team performances...From every picture on this page tumble memories of a thousand games...Superb pitching feats, brilliant fielding plays, memories of long gone crowds brought roaring to their feet by singles and home runs in every city in the league...

Memories and reminiscences forever will be...baseball.



RAY SCHALK



BILL DONOVAN

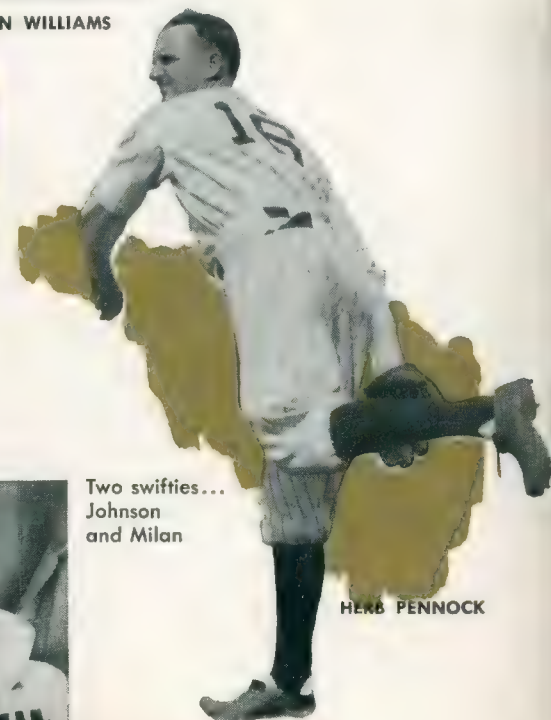


KEN WILLIAMS



SAM CRAWFORD

TED LYONS



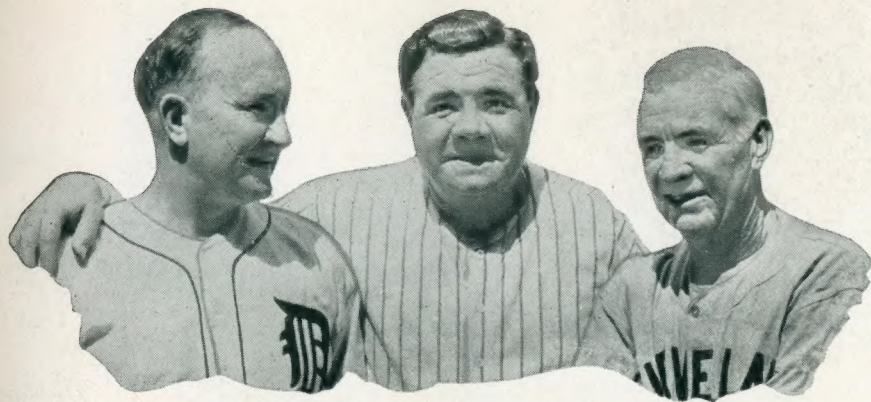
HERB PENNOCK



Two swifties...  
Johnson  
and Milan

"1912 series in Boston...the law raids the knot-hole gang territory..."





Oldtimers reunion of an all-time outfield...



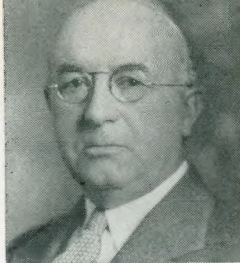
...A couple of Washington 'all-timers'...



JIMMY COLLINS



LEFTY GOMEZ



THOMAS H. CONNOLLY

## MEN IN BLUE

The symbol of baseball's integrity and a part and parcel of the American League's growth, the circuit's umpiring staff through the years has compiled an unsurpassed record of service to the game.

Through scores of great and demanding pennant races, through grimly fought world series battles and all-star duels, the umpire's contribution to the league's development and reputation has ranked deservedly with the finest achievements of the American League's first half-century.

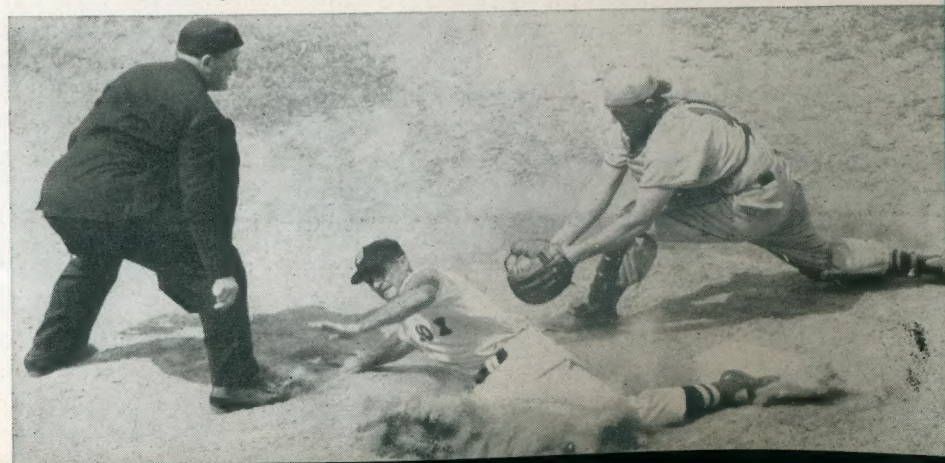
The small band of arbiters which controlled American League games in that first season of 1901 included Thomas H. Connolly...As the circuit heads into its second half-century, Tommy still is on the job as league Umpire-in-Chief, the 1951 season marking his golden anniversary under the American League banner and his 58th year in organized baseball.

A member of the rules committee and a recognized authority on the game's playing code, Tommy in his 31 years as an active umpire ranked with the 'greats' of his profession...Silk O'Loughlin, Jack Sheridan, Billy Evans, to mention only a few. Through the years they "called 'em as they saw them," honestly and fearlessly.

From those lusty and sometimes riotous early days down to the present, the umpire has helped mold and strengthen baseball's moral fibre... Ever vigilant, no group in baseball has faced greater responsibilities nor discharged them more faithfully and honestly, than have the arbiters.

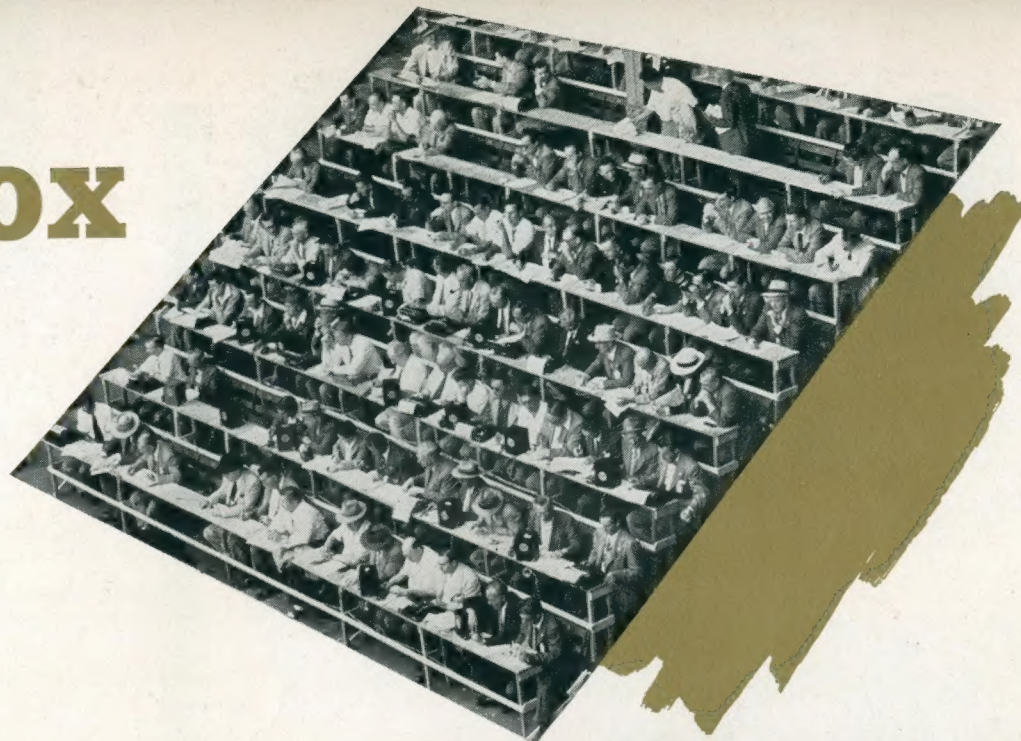
The American League has reason to be proud of the record of its Men in Blue.

Has Bobby Doerr beaten the tag? Cal Hubbard's ready to make it official.





# THE PRESS BOX



The headlines blaze with the names of the Cobbs and Speakers, Johnsons and Gehrigs and Averills, the Goodmans, Kells, DiMaggios and Evers...Behind them in the wings of baseball's passing show are other names, those of men who through the years have reported the game for the fan...Reported it accurately, faithfully and entertainingly through the written and spoken word.

Ever vigilant of baseball's integrity and best interests, constant contributors to the growth and development of the sport have been the writers who have covered the American League through the passing seasons...Men such as Tim Murnane, Charley Dryden, the Spinks of St. Louis, Si Sanborn, Sid Mercer, Harvey Woodruff, Hugh Keough, Henry Edwards, Sam Crane, Ring Lardner. Damon Runyon and Jimmy Isaminger, to mention but a few of many names representative of the stature the Fourth Estate has maintained in American League history.

To them and their contemporaries, to the men behind the mikes on the radio and television fronts, to the photographers who bring a thousand and one thrills so graphically to the fans, the American League always will be grateful...



To the Detroit News and the head of its sports photo department, Bill Kuenzel; to the Chicago Sun-Times and librarian Ralph Reed; to the Chicago Tribune; to Jerry Nason and the Boston Globe; to Ed Pollock and the Philadelphia Bulletin, to the Sporting News—and to every club in the American League...My sincere thanks and deep appreciation for assistance and cooperation given in collecting and assembling photographs for this anniversary brochure...

Earl J. Hilligan, Editor.



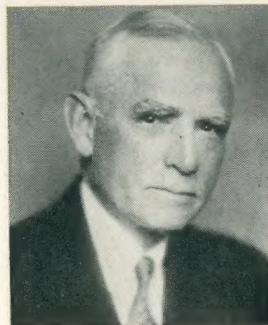
# THE AMERICAN LEAGUE



B. B. JOHNSON  
1901-1927



E. S. BARNARD  
1927-1931



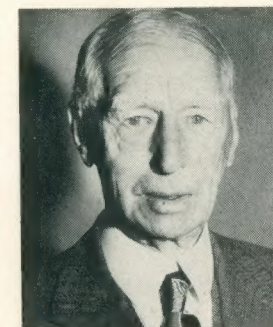
CLARK C. GRIFFITH



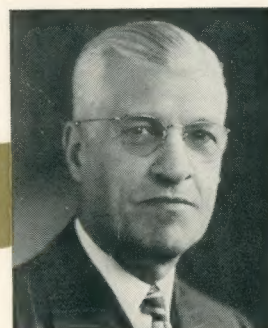
WALTER O. BRIGGS



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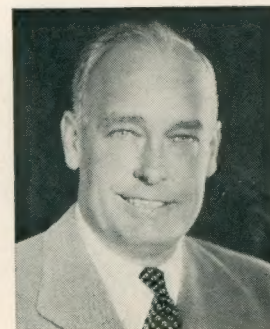
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